




Comparison of the Effectiveness of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy and an Integrated Seven-Domain Competence-Based Approach in Reducing Suicidal Ideation Among Individuals Recovering from Substance Use Disorder

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Editor

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The claim “individuals with substance dependence frequently exhibit deficits in executive functioning, response inhibition, and working memory” would benefit from brief clarification of whether these deficits were assessed or controlled for in your sample, or whether they are presented solely as theoretical background.

When introducing the Seven-Domain Competency Model (“The Seven-Domain Competency Model in counseling represents...”), please include either a citation to its original theoretical source or provide a concise conceptual diagram or table summarizing the domains for clarity and reproducibility.

The paragraph beginning “Given the persistent risk of suicide during recovery...” should more explicitly articulate the unique gap your study fills (e.g., lack of comparative single-case data between CBT and integrative competence-based models in Iranian recovery populations).

In the sentence “including CAPIR, the bus metaphor, the miracle question...”, the density of techniques risks obscuring theoretical coherence. Consider briefly explaining how these techniques map onto the seven domains to improve conceptual integration.

You state “statistically and clinically meaningful reductions” in the Discussion, yet no statistical tests are described. Please revise to avoid statistical terminology unless inferential procedures are reported.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. *Reviewer 2*

Reviewer:

In “The present study employed a single-case experimental design...”, please specify whether any procedural safeguards (e.g., treatment fidelity checks, independent raters, session adherence protocols) were employed to strengthen internal validity.

The sentence “six participants were selected using purposive sampling... and assigned to either...” does not clarify how assignment occurred. Was this randomized, matched, or convenience-based? The assignment logic should be reported explicitly.

The reported test–retest reliability of the BSSI (0.54) is relatively modest. Please comment on its implications for measurement precision within your design and how this limitation may influence interpretation of change across phases.

The detailed CBT protocol is commendable; however, the manuscript should clarify whether the same therapist delivered both treatments and whether therapist allegiance effects were controlled.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. **Revised**

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.